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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A charge-collecting circuit is connected between a clamping circuit on the side of the sustain electrodes and a clamping circuit on the side of the scan electrodes so
5 as to be parallel to a capacitance between said sustain electrodes and said scan electrodes. In write-discharge, sustain-discharge, and the like, when a sustain-electrode potential staying at the level of the ground potential with a switch S2 being turned ON is to be increased to the
10 level of the power potential that is the same as the level of a scan-electrode potential staying at the power potential with a switch S5 being turned ON, the switch S2 is first turned OFF, a current is then applied to flow from the scan-electrode to the sustain-electrode side to
15 thereby slowly increase the potential on the side of the sustain electrodes in the charge-collecting circuit. Then, the switch S1 is subsequently turned ON, thereby, the sustain-electrode potential is clamped to the power potential at the same level as that of the scan-electrode
20 potential.